NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, (Agricultural Warehouse.)—ALLEN PUTNAM, EDITOR.

VOL. XIX.] BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 3, 1841. [NO. 35.

N. E. FARMER.

For the New England Farmer.

THE POTATO.

Quere. Is the potato a root? The dictionary to which we were wont in our childhood to be referred for information, insinuates that it is; nay more, gives us to understand that it may be eaten; but whether raw, after the manner of the ground-nut, or seethed, or baked, or roasted, it saith not. Yet as man is omnivorous—meaning, we suppose, eating all things (if he can,) a most consolatory doctrine to the anti-Grahamists—it is for him to decide how and when this root-fruit shall enter into his viands. Botanists have heretofore supposed that the potato was a species of Solanum producing a small tuber, and which, under cultivation, has been improved into the varied kinds and sorts of the present day. But botanists, like all other philosophers, may be wrong at best, as has been verified in one kind of potato, the gilliflower, which originates on the stem of a garden posy.

Once we (who have an inkling for the *curiosities* of nature,) did actually see with our own eyes, little potatoes growing on the stems of a small trailing plant in a greenhouse collection. After looking all about the fine lot of geraniums and roses, and such flowers, the proprietor showed us, in a deep flower-pot, filled with light, rich earth, the above mentioned plant. Both he and we considered it not only a great curiosity, but exceedingly interesting. We did not perceive any blossoms on the plant; but perhaps the production of so useful a root (?) was considered by dame nature more than a compensation for mere posies—a thing by no means without some support, for we believe (and we live in the country and near farms,) that there are *varieties* of *potatoes* even, which never have any blossoms; and good potatoes they be too, at bottom.

From these and similar observations, we have come to the conclusion that the dictionary-men were wrong in attributing to potato the signification of root; and we here hold up our protest against *book farmers*, while talking about the root culture, to include the potato. We think, and we entertain some doubts whether it be our own discovery, (for every one should be modest in these days of science,) that the said vexed potato is not a root, but a mere swelling of the stem. We know that the sap in descending accumulates into the woody parts of plants. Now in going down, it may accumulate into potatoes. Why not? And perhaps nature did not mean that the potato should be eaten, but only intended it as seed; for we know that farmers do actually call a part of the crop *seed potatoes*, and cutting them into little pieces, raise others from them. Herein they do just as gardeners and the ladies do when they cut up a stem of a rose bush or geranium to have a greater number. Now it does not matter a whit, whether this stem grow under the ground or above it, because we find that other plants sometimes have stems under ground. And we also think that the potato is a swelling or knot of the returning sap on the stem, as every one has seen that those potatoes which grow out of the hill, are green and bitter, and taste so like the stem itself that even pigs will scarcely touch them. Besides, we have seen on such potatoes little green leaves growing out of the eyes, which can therefore be nothing more than the buds of that part of the stem.

Things are not always called by right names. Can potatoes be roots? We opine they are not. If they be warts on stems, on what stems? We do not decide. Facts are stubborn things. 'Tis enough that we admire nature as she is: to peep into her ladyship's mysterious operations, belongs rather to those nature-men, who are always studying about grasses and mosses and creeping things, than to people who are contented to eat a good potato when they can get it, carcing not whether it grow on trees or in the cold ground. At any rate, in such a case they can ask the farmer who raises it and brings it to market, and our word for it, he knows more about the matter than the whole of us.

Verb. Sat.

For the New England Farmer.

ABSORPTION OF WATER.

A beet, carrot and flat turnip are growing in bulb glasses on our mantel, sustained only by pure water. They are nearly of equal size and weight. The difference in the quantity of water they each consume is, however, striking. Thus the beet, whose foliage is not expanded to a sixteenth part of its proper size, is a great water toper, and its *blood red* root and fibres exhibit its intemperate habits, "after the manner of men." The turnip next sucks away to such a purpose as to give one a tolerable mess of greens; and young turnip tops are good in that way. The carrot, the prettiest by far, drinks the least. Its foliage is long, rich and green, and its fibres of snowy whiteness. Does this experiment explain any fact in culture? The beet is a gross feeder and succeeds best in moist land; the flat turnip is generally sown and takes advantage of the autumnal rains; but the carrot, will it do well in comparatively dry summers?

Gleaner.

For the N. E. Farmer.

THE PROPER CONSTRUCTION OF BARNS.

There is no building of more importance to the farmer than a good, well-constructed barn; yet many do not seem to realize the advantage they would have by possessing one built on the most improved and convenient plan. I did not myself, until I pulled down my old barns and built anew. But I am now confident that I save at least fifty dollars a year by keeping the manure which is made in the cellar, directly under the cattle's stall, besides many other conveniences which the too common mode of constructing barns does not admit of. I will give you as good an idea of the construction of my own as I can, and then leave it with your readers to judge whether it be worth any thing for a pattern or not. The ground on which I set my barn was nearly level, but with the aid of a plough and scraper I soon took out a place large enough for a cellar by digging down four feet and then setting my barn three feet above the level of the ground around it, which gives me a cellar seven feet in depth; the bottom of the cattle yard should be sunk nearly or quite as low as the bottom of the cellar; it is very desirable therefore to have the ground, on which to set a barn, slope a little, that the bottom of the yard may not be much lower than the land surrounding it; and, where it is possible, the yard and cellar should always be on the south side of the barn: it is not very essential to have a cellar under the whole width of a barn, unless the back side of it is wanted for carrots, &c., in which case it may be walled off and made secure from frost. My cellar is under only 23 feet of the width of the barn.

My barn is 55 feet in length and 38 feet in width and 15 feet posts. I divide the width by taking off 12 feet for the cattle stalls and 11 feet for floor room, which leaves 15 feet for hay; and having the floor pass through lengthwise makes it very handy unloading hay, and in winter it is likewise very handy to feed out: for a very large barn it might be well enough to have the floor 12 feet in width, but the narrower the floor is the better, providing it be wide enough for the loads you wish to draw in. I would not on any consideration build a barn more than 38 feet in width; first, because it is not so convenient; second, because it requires the rafters to be too long in order to give the roof a right pitch, which should be one quarter at least, even a little more is better; and third, because a barn does not look so well proportioned, unless it be an hundred feet long or upwards. Neither would I have a barn higher on any account than 15 or 16 feet posts, though many are built 18 and some 20; but it is strange that any one should build so high, if they did but calculate how much it costs to get their hay and grain up so high, and then to get it down when wanted: why I have seen six men employed at the same time in unloading and stowing away one load of hay, pitching it up from one mow to another; but it is much more convenient to have the room in the length than to build so high.

It is a very great and beneficial improvement in building barns to have them shingled down the sides as well as the roof; the extra expense is not so much as many people are ready to imagine, as there is a very considerable saving to be made in the quality of boards and nails where shingling is practiced: besides it keeps a barn warm and the frame dry, and the boarding is not warped by the sun and rain; therefore I think there is no loss but considerable gain in the end by shingling the sides.

Another exceedingly convenient improvement is, having a number of glass windows (about six lights of 6 by 8 glass in each) in the side of the barn directly behind the cattle, which will admit the light without admitting the cold winds and storms: there is not so much danger of their get-

ting broken as some might think, by the cattle going out and in. I have used mine two years nearly, and not a single light has been even cracked. (The manure made by the cattle in their stalls is not thrown out of the windows, but is let down through the floor into the cellar.) There should likewise be two rows of lights over the great doors and a window in each end near the ridgepole, that is if your barn is to be 50 or an 100 feet in length.

M. C. P.

For the New England Farmer.

BERKSHIRE AND CHINA SWINE.

Mr Editor—Under this head I noticed in the 32d No. of the Farmer, some remarks on the Berkshire swine in your vicinity, as being a cross between the black hog and alligator; being "miserable feeders, and gaining less than half a pound a day on good feed." Now, Mr Editor, if the Berkshire hogs in the vicinity of Boston are of the kind described by "A Beginner," they do not "*begin*" to be like what we call Berkshire *here*. Mine are from Bement's stock at Albany. They do not resemble the alligator, unless he be a very quiet animal. In form they resemble the very best of the "pig-ships," and as to "moonshine," they only resemble that when the hair is off, which leaves a fine white skin, which resembles somewhat the moon's light rays. As to gaining on good food half a pound a day, I tried one in the summer of '39, which weighed 74 lbs. to commence with; and at the end of 14 days it weighed 100 lbs., being 26 lbs. gained in 14 days—the food not the best. A pig which I thought not fit to breed from, I fattened for experiment the same season: whole cost of keeping $14, (corn being only $1 per bushel at that time;)—weight at ten months old, 270 lbs.; price 7 cts. per lb. Last fall I fattened a full blood Berkshire at the usual age of fattening here, (about 18 months) I fed him on corn meal alone for near two months; he consumed one bushel in nine days; weighed when dressed 474 lbs. I also fed several three fourths Berkshire, one fourth white China, all were good feeders, put on flesh well, and when killed were fatter than any hogs I have ever fattened destitute of Berkshire blood, although I have tried the razor back, Byfield and many of the improved breeds. If, however, I wanted a hardy hog, a good feeder, and one that would put on the most flesh, on a given portion of food, and was satisfied with a hog of 300 or 350 lbs. weight, I would prefer three quarters Berkshire, one quarter White China, to any other breed with which I am acquainted; but if I wanted a good feeder, a hardy hog, and one that would weigh from 4 to 500, I would take the full blood Berkshire. As "A Beginner" would be satisfied with a three hundred hog, I would recommend the cross named, and think by commencing with it, and selecting his whitish pigs to breed from, obtaining occasionally one from another family to prevent breeding in and in, I think he would soon have "*white* hogs to his mark." But why does "A Beginner" abominate *black*? If he is an anti-abolitionist, be it known unto him that the Berkshire has not a black skin. Many of our best men have black hair, and wear black coats: why may not a hog do the same without committing an abomination? especially since men do not eat bristles, and if they did, it is not likely there is a difference between the taste of a black and a white one.

One who prefers *Form* to *Color*.

West Thompson, Ct., Feb. 14, 1841.

From the Albany Cultivator.

COMPARATIVE VALUE OF PIGS FOR CUTTING UP.

That there is a very great difference in the value of pigs of equal weight, when fattened and killed, is known to every buyer and packer of pork, and should be well understood by every farmer. There are certain parts of a hog, such as the hams, lard and mess, much more valuable than other parts, such as the head and feet, and those hogs which give the greatest weight where it is of the most value, other things being equal, are the best animals for both seller and buyer. Weight, however, without reference to the place where it is found, is generally the standard of value, and a hog that will weigh three or four hundred, even if one third of it is in the head and legs, is by many considered first rate. A breed of hogs then, having large hams, thick sides that lard well, with short necks, small heads, and slender legs and feet, is the one which is to be preferred, if there is sufficient weight of carcass and aptitude to fatten. Perhaps with an exception in a single point, (that of weight,) the Chinese hog comes nearer the standard of perfection than any other; and this defect in size, while the other valuable points have been retained, has been best corrected, we think, by the cross with the Berkshires. The great thickness of these hogs gives a weight of ham unequaled in any other, and their round, capacious carcass furnishes ample room for lard, which experience shows is usually fully occupied. Many have been disappointed in killing Berkshire pigs, because they looked smooth and round when compared with the Alligators, and it seems to have been supposed that they should weigh without feeding, as much as the latter after months of stuffing. No one has a right to expect this: the true point at issue is—which pig, with the same food, will make the most meat, and of the most valuable kind?—and, tried by this rule, we have no fears for the Berkshire.

Our pen of hogs this year consisted of five hogs of one of the best common breeds, and one Berkshire. The lot was from 18 to 24 months old, the Berkshire the oldest. They were none of them in high order when put up, and were fed wholly on steamed apples and potatoes, with the exception of about twenty bushels of screenings, refuse wheat and oats mixed together and ground. The average weight of the whole was 375 lbs. each; that of the Berkshire alone was 430 lbs. Several of the common pigs were longer than the Berkshire, but the weight in the latter was on the most valuable parts, and we have never seen a hog that exceeded him in the hams and lard, while the weight of the less valuable parts was proportionably less. They were fed little more than two months.

Since writing the above, we have been favored with a copy of the Report of the Committee on Swine, made to the Tompkins Co. Agricultural Society, in which are some very just remarks on the subject discussed above, and on the relative value of the several varieties of pigs now generally grown and fed in the country. From this report we make the following extract, as illustrating more fully the opinions we have expressed.

"The following experiment, made by the chairman of this committee last December, in cutting up his pork, will show that the Berkshire pig cuts up well, and has less offal than other breeds, in proportion to the valuable parts. The first example is a sow, common breed, 2 1-2 years old; had raised one litter of pigs in July and August, 1839. She weighed as follows in parcels—whole weight 235 pounds. The second is a half blood Berkshire sow, 18 months old; had raised two litters of pigs; one in March and April, and the other in September and October, 1839—slaughtered in December.—Whole weight 204 pounds, in parcels as below. The third example that we will give is a half blood Berkshire barrow, 18 months old, killed at the same time, and all fattened in the ordinary way—whole weight 336 pounds, in parcels as follows:

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
Lard,	26	16	31
Hams,	32 1-2	31	52
Tenderloin,	5 1-2	3 1-4	5
Feet,	8 3-4	6 3-4	9
Mess pork,	96	103	176
Prime,	28 1-4	16	26
Head,	18	16	21
Sparerib,	20	12	16
	235 lbs.	204 lbs.	336 lbs.

The following from the same report, is commendation strongly expressed, but we think facts will fully bear out the writer in his remarks:

"The Berkshire is a hardy hog, and a good feeder, and is as well adapted to consume the coarse food of the farm, as any other breed; and it is believed they will make a greater return in flesh for the food they consume than any other breed, except perhaps the China, and as large a return as they will. They are also remarkable quiet hogs, which is a very desirable quality with the farmer. They keep out of mischief, and save their flesh by their gentleness. Their skin is white when dressed and very thin.—Their pork is firm and solid, and of the very best quality. Their hams are unrivalled; and possess a higher character where known, than the ham of any other breed of hogs in existence."

From the same.

USEFUL RECIPES.

To cure poisoned Lambs.—I send you a recipe to cure lambs when poisoned with *Withey*, so called here. It grows on low lands, about one foot high, and is green the year round. To half a pound of black tea, put one quart of water—boil it until you get the strength of the tea, sweeten with molasses and give two table spoonfuls at a time. One dose is in most cases sufficient.

ISAAC CHANDLER.

Great Falls, N. H.

For Bots in Horses.—A junk bottle full of strong sage tea, made very sweet with molasses. Two or three doses is generally sufficient for a cure.

J. PARKER, Jr.

Trenton, N. J.

Hiccough or Hicup.—We have been sometimes racked for an hour or two by this uncomfortable affection; but we think we have found a simple remedy: about a table spoonful of good vinegar with as much sugar as the vinegar will dissolve, has given us instant and effective relief.—Ed.

Happy is he who in regretting his past indiscretions, can say, I never led a companion into evil.

REPORTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WM. SALISBURY'S STATEMENT.

1. My farm consists of 130 acres, exclusive of woodland, and embraces loam, clay and some peat, or as we call it, meadow.

To reclaim my meadow lands, I find it necessary to drain them, and invert the sod by the plough or some other implement, in such a manner as to completely kill out all the wild grass: when that is accomplished, I carry on a compost made of as fine loam as I can obtain—say from 12 to 25 loads to the acre. My meadows are generally so soft before I get them brought into grass, that I cannot go on to them with a team, except there is frost in the ground. I therefore prepare my compost in summer or fall and heap it up pretty well, so that I can take it when the meadow is sufficiently frozen, and carry and spread it on the meadow; and when the frost gets out 2 or 3 inches, I go on with a good pair of horses and sharp harrow, and harrow till I make the surface as smooth as I can get it. I then sow on oats or some other grain, and give another harrowing. I then sow on about one peck of herds grass, half a bushel of red top, and as I commonly raise my own clover seed and sow it in the chaff, I do not know how much seed I put on; do not think we often hurt land by sowing clover seed on it. My upland I prefer to stock down in the fall, as I can then turn the stubble under, which I think is of service to the ground: I sowed two pieces on my meadow last spring; the one I harrowed after sowing the grass seed—the other I did not; and the piece that was not harrowed took the best. I sow southern clover seed on my land in the spring; the next season it will be ready to cut early, which I do, and lay it up for my milch cows. The second crop will usually start up very soon, and with me, as it will commonly fill with seed, I let as much of this crop stand till it gets ripe, as I think I shall want to sow the next spring. I do not think it good policy to sow clover seed in the fall, as the frost would probably kill it out. On the lands I laid down this fall, I intend to sow clover chaff next spring. After cutting clover intended for seed, I let it lay on the ground about a week, to take the dews and rains, which will render it much more easily threshed. I have been thus particular, thinking that the method of saving clover seed might not be understood by all my brother farmers in this section of the country.

I have tilled this season about 18 acres; I usually put on about 20 loads of manure to the acre, where I spread it, which I generally prefer to do. I usually mix meadow mud with all my stable manure: my straw manure I usually cover up in potato hills. I have usually carted my manure on to my grass land that I intended to plant to corn, and as I plough my land with what is commonly called a side-hill plough, and turn the furrows all one way, I have but one row of heaps spread at a time, preferring to cover it before it dries. The land that I intend to plant to potatoes I plough before I cart the manure on; then spread and harrow well, and cover the manure nearly all up when I plant.

There was so much said last year by a gentleman at the south, about its being the best way to put the manure on the top of the land, which has always been contrary to my theory, that I this year caused three loads to be spread upon the top of the land and well harrowed in, and three loads ploughed under as usual, and staked the land out (equal quantities) and planted it to corn; the result this year is in favor of turning the manure under; but it remains to see which piece will produce the most grass and hold out longest; which it will take several years to determine.

I mow about 25 acres of upland. I think I cut from 1 to 1 1-2 tons per acre. I have no land that I can irrigate, except some low meadow, which I flow by means of dams that I cause to be made by ditching and laying the sods and mud above the ditch. I put down my gates in the fall before the swamps get full, and keep them down till April. The last year was the first of my experiment in this way. I therefore cannot so well tell what the result may be, but I think it will be favorable, as there appears to be considerable sediment settle. I do not manure the land that I irrigate. I put compost manure on meadow land that has been reclaimed, say from 12 to 20 loads per acre. I mow about 20 or 25 acres of low land that is not suitable for the plough; on that part which I have properly reclaimed I cut from 2 to 3 tons per acre of a good quality; on about 10 acres that I have not improved, I should think that I did not cut more than half a ton per acre; and that not worth half as much per ton as that that grew on the reclaimed meadow. (My method of reclaiming low bog is given in the previous part of my statement.)

I have planted 3 1-2 acres of corn this season. Some part of the ground was prepared by spreading manure on the grass and turning it under; on about one acre of which we also put a small quantity into the hill; on some we ploughed the land and spread manure on the top and harrowed it well. When I plough the manure under, I put about a gill of ashes round the corn after it is up: on the two pieces where I planted for experiment, I put ashes equally alike on both parts. I plant my corn without soaking. From 3 1-2 acres of corn we husked 300 bushels of ears, which we think will yield 150 bushels of shelled corn. The principal part of my corn this year was planted on low moist land. On one fourth of an acre of good corn land containing 680 hills, we spread 8 loads of stable manure and ploughed it in, and put about 3 loads in the hill: the corn was planted near the house and the fowls injured it some, but we husked 1368 pounds in the ear, which would be but a fraction short of 19 bushels, allowing 75 pounds to the bushel, on about one quarter of an acre.

We planted about 4 acres with potatoes, they are not all dug, and of course I am not able to state how much they will yield to the acre. My manner of planting I have heretofore in this report stated: I plant Calico, Orange, Pink-eyes, Lady-fingers, Blues and Long Reds.

I planted this season to ruta baga, English turnips, cabbages and carrots, about 1 1-2 acre: they are not all gathered yet—of course I am not able to say how many bushels I shall have. I do not think I have made it profitable to raise turnips this year: my carrots look better. I also sowed nearly an acre of corn for the purpose of feeding to cows when the pasture grew short: I this year found it very convenient. I expect also to feed out my turnips and carrots principally to my milch cows.

I sowed about 14 acres of ground this season. I sowed rye, peas, rye and oats mixed together for feed for hogs; rye and oats also, and barley. The peas, rye and oats sowed very early: rye I also sowed the first part of April; the barley I did not sow till some time in May: I sowed about one bushel of rye to the acre; about two of peas, rye and oats, and about two and a half of barley. I last fall ploughed up about 2 1-2 acres of grass land, that was too wet to hoe; I rolled the land down and in the winter and spring I carried on from 15 to 20 loads of compost made by my hogs and spread it, and sowed on about two bushels per acre of peat, rye and oats mixed together, and harrowed it in and sowed on my grass seed, and it now bids fair to produce a crop of good hay another year: the land that I sowed my rye on I did not plough in the spring, as I did not wish to disturb the sod that was turned under last year; I went over it with the cultivator. The land that I sowed barley on I ploughed this spring. Did not raise wheat this year.

I have laid down 14 acres to grass this season, on 8 of which I sowed the grass seed in the spring at the time of sowing the grain, and on 6 acres I sowed it by itself this fall about the first week in September, (quantity of seed stated before.)

My means for making manure are meadow mud, loam from the road side, leaves, &c. Method of making manure: first my barns stand a little elevated; the yards form a gentle declivity. I have ploughed and taken out the earth near the lower side, also raised the lower part so that the hole would probably contain about 20 loads of muck or loam; I fill that with meadow mud or loam, as best suits my convenience: when taken out, which I do about twice a year, if filled with mud, carry it on to upland; if with loam, carry it on to the meadow. Below the yard I have excavated another hole, which I fill also; and when there is enough water to run out of the yard, I conduct it with spouts over any part of the place that I wish. I used to be in the habit of cleaning up my yard every morning and putting the droppings from the cows into a pile and throwing mud or loam over them; but have for two years past adopted a different method, which I think augments my manure very much; every morning, Sunday excepted, I throw about two shovelsful of mud or loam over every dropping of a cow, and by this means I not only save the droppings, but also a great part of the urine. I have also dug under my stables and carried the dirt on to my meadow, and now fill under them with meadow mud; also lay as much mud as is convenient under the barn windows where I throw out my manure. I have also dug into the side-hill and placed my hog pen in such a way that my hogs lie almost under ground: have dug the yard down so as to make it level; laid a bank wall 6 or 8 feet high on the north side of my yard, and made a road round so that I can drive and tip as many loads of any thing that I wish into the yard as I please; I do not, however, at this season of the year put more than one or two into the same yard at a time. I also deposit back of the hog yards large quantities of mud, and as soon as it begins to thaw in the spring I begin to shovel into my hog yard and cover up the droppings of my hogs. I have also dug a hole a short distance from my house that will contain 12 or 15 loads of meadow muck, and with spouts from my sink spout and back door, I conduc all the waste water and suds over the deposite.

I have kept this summer and through the last winter 4 oxen, 12 cows, 6 two years old, 9 yearlings, 2 horses, 1 colt, no sheep.

I have one barn 82 by 30, one 52 by 30 feet; one barn built by my predecessor, for sheep, which I have converted into a hay and stock barn, 60 by 20 feet: have no cellar under them, except as sta-

ted above; have a shed between two barns, under which I put meadow mud and throw the manure from two stables

I have been for a considerable time trying to improve my breed of cattle by mixing English and French with the best natives I could get.

Those calves which I intend to raise I let suck two or three days and then take them off and learn them to drink. I have this year raised six calves, which I have pastured. I have also kept for my neighbors seven cows nearly all the season. We have this year milked two old cows, seven 3 years old, and one 2 years old that calved in July. My family are pretty numerous, and of course make use of considerable milk. We have made up to this date 165 lbs. of butter and 40 cheeses—a small proportion of them new milk; nearly all of them better than four-meal cheese.

I have kept no sheep for some years. I usually keep one breeding sow, and have her produce one litter of pigs, say in March or early in April, which I usually kill the next winter for my own use: she will commonly have another litter by August or September; these I keep over winter and fatten the next winter to sell. I killed ten last winter; the oldest weighed I think from 225 to 300; the sboats weighed from 200 to 225. I have also endeavored to improve my swine by mixing with the best breed that we can get in our section of the country. We have had in this neighborhood a boar from Mr Phinney, of Lexington, so noted for keeping good hogs: the probability is if we had his corn chamber too, it would improve our pork very much. I have fenced off with boards about 2 1-2 acres of the thickest part of my orchard, and let my hogs have access to that from spring till about September, which I think helps the hogs and orchard too, very much: my hogs have been in but two or three years, and many of my apples have nearly doubled their size in that time, and are less wormy. My hogs, with the wash from the house, get their living in my orchards: in number six old ones and four pigs that came the first of March. After shutting them up I feed them with raw pumpkins and apples as long as these last; I then boil or steam potatoes a while; I then mix some provender with them; at last make a pudding of corn and peas, rye and oats ground together; also occasionally give them a little corn in the ear.

I make from 60 to 75 loads of manure per year: in the season for it, I cut what brakes I can find on my farm and cart into the hog yard; get turf and loam from beside my walls; and use meadow mud; I suppose I have now from 3 to 500 loads of meadow mud thrown out, ready to cart or sled, if I want it, all the coming season.

I have employed this season one man for four months, for which I paid $12 50 per month; one other youngster, 18 years old, for 8 months, for which I paid $10 per month; I also have a grandson about the same age that lives with me all the year, and a small boy 10 years old. I am not able myself to do hard work; do not mow, chop or shovel; but can put up the bars and spread hay.

Have about 400 apple trees, most of them grafted; my winter fruit goes to market, except what we want for family use. The ordinary apples are principally given to my hogs in a raw state, but are sometimes ground in my cider mill, when a little provender is put with them and they are suffered to ferment; which mixture the swine eat very greedily. The last year we made but about two barrels of cider, which more than supplied us for the year.

I have about 20 pear trees, as many peach trees, some plums, and some cherries.

My trees have not been attacked by canker worm. I think I have lost a few peach trees by the borer. I sometimes dig round my peach trees in the spring and put ashes about them.

We do not use ardent spirit at all as a drink on my farm.

In conclusion, the subscriber would say that he came on to the farm eleven years ago; found it very much run down; the pasture all run over to alders and bushes, some of them 6 or 8 feet high; the meadow very much run over with hassocks; from one half acre we took off 25 heaping cartloads. For several of the first years I could not raise my bread nor fodder enough to keep my cattle, summer or winter. I have now pretty much subdued the bushes; fenced off ten acres of the pasture; tore up the alders and bushes; manured the land and converted it into productive mowing fields; have eradicated the principal part of the hassocks on the farm, and reclaimed a considerable portion of my unproductive meadow, as your agent will see. I have had to work my passage, as the saying is, almost against wind and tide: I had to run in debt for a considerable part of the farm, and without means to buy much manure, I have had to make it principally from the materials which a wise providence has so amply provided. On a farm so large as mine, I do not think it so much an object to raise a large crop on a small piece of land, as to make a large piece of land productive.

All which is respectfully submitted by your

Ob't servant,

WM. SALISBURY.

Groton, Oct. 21st, 1840.

—

MR READ'S STATEMENT.

1. My farm consists of 85 acres.

2. Nature of soil, rocky loam and peat.

3. Method of improving: I plough in September on my rocky land and cross plough in spring; when free from stone I plough in May; my peat land (8 acres) I have graveled 4 inches thick; put 20 loads of compost manure to the acre and seed to grass in August.

4. I till 7 acres; put 25 cartloads of manure to the acre.

5. My manure is applied in a compost.

6. I spread and plough in my manure.

7. I plough green sward in May, roll it, spread my manure and harrow it in.

8. I mow thirty acres of upland; average quantity of hay per acre two tons.

9. I do not irrigate any land.

10. I manure my low lands that I mow; 20 loads of compost to the acre.

11. I mow twelve acres not suitable for the plough; cut twentyfive tons of hay of a good quality.

12. I drain my low lands and gravel; spread on compost manure and raise two tons of hay to the acre, with good success.

13. I planted five acres of corn the present season. I ploughed my ground in September, cross ploughed in spring, spread 25 loads of compost manure to the acre, and had 36 bushels of corn to the acre.

14. I planted two acres of potatoes the present season: 1 1-2 acre I ploughed in September, rolled in spring, and spread the manure and harrowed; the other half acre I ploughed the 20th of May; rolled it, spread the manure and harrowed it. I planted Long Reds—raised 350 bushels to the acre.

15. I planted 1-16 of an acre of vegetables to use in my family.

16. I sowed seven acres of grain the present year, where I had my corn and potatoes last year: 3 acres of oats about the 20th of April, 4 acres of barley the 10th of May: I sowed 2 1-5 bushels to the acre. I ploughed my ground and harrowed it, sowed my seed, harrowed and rolled it.

17. I have laid down seven acres of grass the present season; I sowed my seed with my spring grain; one peck of herds grass, one do. of red top, and eight pounds of clover seed to the acre.

18. I cart peat mud and loam into my barn yards and hog pens.

19. I keep 8 oxen, 8 cows, 12 young cattle, 2 horses, 25 sheep, through the year. I have one barn 60 by 50 feet; one 36 by 33 feet; one 36 by 26 feet. I have a long shed to cover my manure.

20. My cows are of a native and Durham breed.

21. I do not raise any calves.

22. I made ten hundred pounds of butter this year, six hundred pounds of cheese—one third new milk.

23. I keep 25 sheep of the native breed which average 95 pounds of wool yearly. I keep my sheep in a yard, have a shed for them to go under, feed them in racks in winter. My sheep lamb in February; one to ten of their young die from cold weather: I sell my lambs in May, at from four to five dollars per head.

24. I keep 14 swine; make thirty hundred lbs. of pork. They are of a mixed breed.

25. I feed my swine through the summer months with potatoes, apples, and slops from the dairy; fatten them on boiled pumpkins, potatoes and meal.

26. I take 80 cartloads of manure from my hog styes in a year: it is made of peat mud and loam.

27. I employ three hands and a boy on my farm, and pay $300 a year for labor.

28. I have 700 grafted apple trees. I carry the fruit to Boston and Lowell markets; (600 of the trees grafted since 1828.)

29. I have 250 fruit trees of different kinds, exclusive of apple trees.

30. My trees have not been attacked by canker worms or borers, except two apple trees, which were attacked by borers. I cut a hole in the tree with a sharp pointed knife and run in a small wire, which destroyed them. I keep the ground around the roots of the trees free from grass or weeds,

31. I do not allow the use of ardent spirits on my farm. Respectfully,

ZACCHEUS READ.

Westford, Oct. 26, 1840.

—

MR CONVERSE'S STATEMENT.

1. My farm consists of about 200 acres of improved land.

2. The soil is mostly loamy; some swails. I consider the best way to ditch and cart on loam or gravel.

3. I till from 12 to 15 acres; plant about one half of that, and sow the other part. I put about 20 loads on the acre of my planting ground; 10 loads green, spread and ploughed in, and 10 loads compost in the hill.

4. I cart some manure on to my fields for planting in a green state, and make 200 or 300 loads a year of compost.

5. I spread my manure for potatoes, and spread for corn and put in the hill too.

6. My way of managing green sward is, to turn it over and harrow it, and plant on the furrow. I think it will produce the best thus managed.

7. I mow about 55 acres, and cut very near two tons to the acre: I have 100 tons of good hay at least.

8. I have no land that I flow.

9. I make as much manure as I can, and manure my upland once in a year with compost manure, 10 or 15 loads to the acre.

10. I mow about 10 acres of lowish swaily land. I cut about one ton to the acre of a mixture of blue-joint, fowl meadow and fresh meadow grass.

11. I have none.

12. I have planted 5 acres: my ground was sowed the last year soon after haying; the stubble was turned in; and it was ploughed once in the spring; the seed was small eight rowed yellow corn. The kind of manure; 10 loads of green was spread and 10 loads of compost was put in the hill: the quantity of corn on the acre was 60 or 65 bushels.

13. I planted two acres of potatoes; spread my manure; planted them in rows, one way 3 feet apart, and 1 1-2 foot the other way. I hoe my potatoes twice. I had about 300 bushels to the acre, Blues and Pink-eyes mixed together.

14. I planted a small piece with ruta baga and a few of the sugar beet; had about 100 bushels.

15. I sowed 5 acres of oats, 1 of wheat, 3 of rye. I ploughed my ground once and harrowed the seed in; I sowed 3 bushels of oats, 2 of wheat, 1 of rye to the acre; my wheat was the Bald wheat; the soil loamy; I soaked the seed in brine and rolled it in lime.

16. I have not laid down any.

17. I draw loam into my yards from my fields, that which gathers around the edges; and when I build wall, I dig a ditch to set my foundation in, and draw the dirt into my yards.

18. I keep 4 oxen, 24 cows, 16 head of young stock and dry cows, 70 sheep and 2 horses. I have one barn 110 feet long, one 50 feet, and a small barn for my sheep. I have no cellar.

19. My cows are a part native and a part mixture with the English.

20. If I raise early calves, I take them off at about a week old, and learn them to drink milk and eat meal or oats; if late calves, I learn them to drink whey and feed them about ten weeks.

21. I did not make any butter for sale; I have and shall make about ten thousand weight of cheese. I make 30 pounds per day now, new milk.

22. I keep 70 sheep, mixed Merino and Saxony; I sheared 212 lbs. of wool from 70 last spring. I house my sheep in stormy weather and feed out of doors in pleasant weather to air the pens. I do not have my lambs come till May. I lose but few.

23. I keep 9 swine; I have killed 7 of them—weight 2074 lbs.; have two old ones and one pig which I mean to kill when they will weigh ten hundred. My hogs are the common breed; I feed through the summer on whey with some meal; I fat with apples and potatoes boiled, put with whey and meal stirred in.

24. I make 30 or 40 loads, by using loam.

25. I work myself, and one son 18 years old, one 12 years, and hire one man all the time; pay him $160 by the year; and in haying I hire 3 or 4 men, whom I pay $1 per day. I have no help in doors beside my wife. I pay about $300 per year for labor.

26. About 120; some of them young; as many as one half grafted. I sell a good many winter apples; make a few barrels of cider: boil apples for my hogs.

27. I have 25 or 30—young English cherries, plums, peaches and pears—all young; some just beginning to bear.

28. I have a few grafted trees close to my house, that have been injured some by the canker worm. I once used tar.

29. Do not use ardent spirit on my farm, and have not for 12 years past. I have seen trouble enough with it. I was one of the first that put that out of the way with us.

Respectfully,

ROSWELL CONVERSE.

New Braintree, Oct. 26, 1840.

For the N. E. Farmer.

POINTS OF A GOOD HORSE.

COL. S. JAQUES' *remarks at the Sixth Agricultural Meeting, on the prominent points to be observed in the selection of a useful horse, more particularly for a roadster.*

I prefer a lightish head, neatly set to the neck; the neck rising promptly and strong from the shoulders and withers; neck somewhat crowning or curving at the top, tapering to the head, with a strong crest. Shoulders well laid in, spreading well back, something like a shoulder of mutton.—Chest deep, and a little projecting. Withers rising moderately high, and inclining well into the back. If the withers are low and flat on the top, the horse will be inclined to plunge to the ground, and when fatigued will stumble or fall. Neither must the withers rise too high, as he will then appear as though on stilts: both extremes are serious impediments to fine and safe action. Ribs should be well rounded out. Back straight and short, well coppled, that is, the hips well thrown forward, forming a strong loin, and giving a long lever from the point of the hip to the hock joint of the hind leg. The horse should be a good length from point of shoulder to the extreme point of buttock.—Dock strong, and well covered with hair. Close and snug immediately under the dock. The muscles on the inner part of the thighs should be full and well shut together. If there is a large cavity under the dock, the horse will be inclined to scour, and probably only a door-yard horse.

The head, neck and body forms a lever, resting on the fore legs as a fulcrum, the head being at the end of the lever. If the neck be very long and the head heavy, or if the neck be quite short, and the head short and light, either of these extremes very much affects the regular clips and action. The whole machine should be of good proportion.

The fore arm is a very important lever, as regards the safety as a roadster. The legs should be clean and free from blemish, and when in motion move true, and free from cutting or wabbling. The feet should be round and steep; heels broad, coronet, and posterns of medium length. Shank or canon *short, broad* and *flat*, showing the tendons or sinews. The knee large and well dropped down; the arm above the knee long, and the muscles large and full. The top of the shoulder, where matched to the withers, should not be so heavy loaded with muscle as to impede their action. No objections to have the fore feet move pretty close, but not so as to cut.

Much depends on the form of the hind leg and the power of that lever, as regards *strength* and *speed*. The shank, hock and thigh should be broad and flat, something like that of an ox; and if so, when in motion will operate like a plank sprung edgewise, and then let fly. If the hind legs when at good speed open and spread a little, no objection, providing there is a good free action in the hock joint.

PEAT MEADOWS—AN INQUIRY.

Can any one inform us whether the *kinds* of trees which have grown upon a meadow in antecedent ages, have any effect upon the quality of the muck as a manure, or upon the productiveness of the land when brought into a state of cultivation? We have heard the opinion expressed, that where hard wood grew, the quality is better than where the growth was pine. If this be true, it is of importance in these days, when the public eye is turned to these low lands in search of manure and productive soils. We suppose the resinous matter of the pine must be decomposed or greatly changed before the material in which it abounds can be fertilizing; but whether, when this change has taken place, the decomposed pine is not as good as the rotted oak, maple or alder, we have no grounds on which to offer a conjecture. One pine swamp on which we have labored is good; that is the extent of our knowledge.—ED.

From the Albany Cultivator.

MANAGEMENT OF SALT MARSHES.

Messrs Gaylord & Tucker—Mr. Fairbanks inquires through your paper, what kinds of grass seeds are best adapted to salt marshes. I have made some few experiments with salt marsh, without attempting to keep off the salt water, (I mean the heads of creeks that are frequently overflowed by salt water,) by scattering the seeds of herds grass, (known to some persons as red-top,) over the marsh, and leave them to vegetate as they might. I have also sown wheat upon the mud and turf thrown out of a ditch, cut through the same kind of marsh, and it has flourished and produced well, and so did the herds grass; and I have no doubt that good crops of hay and wheat might be raised upon reclaimed salt marshes, if they were ditched and the tide kept off. I think the best way to prepare such marshes would be, to burn off the grass, cut narrow and deep ditches, and spread the mud over intervals, for the purpose of making a bed for the seed, although they could not be long cultivated in wheat, as by destroying the grass roots, (turf,) the marsh would settle too much and perhaps become miry, but they would not become so if kept in grass. Marsh mud and turf, when dried and pulverized, make excellent manure for every kind of crops raised in this part of the country. No doubt it would vastly improve by lime. Herds grass seed can hardly be sown too thick; about two bushels to the acre is the usual quantity, but three would be better: it may be scattered upon the ground and covered by dragging a rough bush over it; or if the ground be not prepared, by permitting cattle to trample it in. Yours, respectfully,

HENRY WHITING.

Never do good to obtain praise. This is selling virtue at a price.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 1841.

SEVENTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

Dr. C. T. Jackson, who had been announced as our speaker for the evening, stated that he had had no leisure for writing out his views, and therefore must draw out, as he proceeded, from the stores which memory had laid up during the years he had devoted to Agricultural Chemistry. The earthy parts of all soils are formed by the disintegration or crumbling of rocks. A soil is in its nature (the earthy part of it,) like the rock from which it was originally formed. There are simple soils formed from a single kind of rock; and there are compound soils, the diluvial and alluvial, formed by a mixture of the crumblings of rocks that are different in their nature. The great current of waters that once swept over this portion of the earth, together with smaller and oft-repeated currents, have been great agents in producing these mixtures. These comminglings of different earths have contributed much to its fertility. Silex (i. e. sand) when found alone, is of too open or loose a texture; and so is carbonate of lime; while alumina (clay) is too adhesive. Any one of the earths, when alone, is barren. In every good soil there is a mixture of silex, carbonate of lime and alumina—(sand, lime and clay.) For the production of certain kinds of plants the soil must contain other earths; clover, for instance, requires gypsum. The grains require phosphates of lime and magnesia.

An acid soil is not good; neither is an alkaline one: it should be neutral. The earthy or mineral parts of a soil may vary much in their proportions, and yet the soil may be good; one in which sand predominates or one in which clay prevails may be good. But it is not so with the acids and alkalies; these must be neutralized, (made equal, or made to counteract each other.)—The acids result from the decaying of vegetable matter, as trees, leaves, grasses, &c., while alkalies come from the putrefaction and decay of animal matters, as flesh, dung, urine, &c.

The earthy matters, as sand, clay and the like, need to be mixed with either vegetable or animal matter or both, before there can be much fertility. This mixture has been going on through all the ages in which trees, leaves, grasses, plants have been decaying, and through which animals have been living and mouldering away. The original plants which grew before there was vegetable mould, were probably very hardy and of such a nature as to take much of their nourishment from the atmosphere and from water. The opinion has been advanced by Ad. Broaniart, that originally the atmosphere contained more carbonic acid than at present, and thus was fitted to nourish plants which, in their decay, should fit the soil to nourish other and more valuable plants; and these plants in their growth by absorbing the carbonic acid, were fitting the atmosphere to support the higher orders of animal life.

Our usual plants require carbon and nitrogen to perfect their growth; and though they obtain a partial supply from the atmosphere, they cannot from that source alone derive a sufficiency for making them produce flowers and seeds. They must get some elsewhere. Consequently, *the properties of the soil* in which they take root are of importance. To the organic matter in the soil, the plant goes to obtain much of its food. Liebig has doubted this, because by applying guano (a manure from S. America,) to a soil that had neither vegetable nor animal matter in it, he has rendered that soil very fertile. He goes upon the presumption that guano consists entirely of saline matters, as urate, phosphate and carbonate of ammonia. But Dr. J. has ascertained that this guano contains the usual ingredients of common fertile soils, besides a very large quantity of ammoniacal salts. (Therefore we may hold on yet to the common notion that it is important to have some organic matter, some vegetable or animal matter, something in addition to sand, clay, &c. in the soil of our fields.)

Where vegetables decay, a brown substance is formed, which is usually called vegetable mould. This substance contains much carbon, (food for plants,) but it likewise contains many acids. These acids, in their free state, are injurious to vegetation; where a tree is rotting nothing will grow: hence farmers have thought that rotten wood and muck are not good; that they make the soil sour. This is true of them in their acid state. But when these acids are neutralized, the rotten wood and muck become fertilizers. This neutralization can be produced slowly by exposing the substances to the action of the atmosphere and soil. But it can be more speedily and effectually accomplished by mixing them with, or exposing them to, the action of ammoniacal products produced by *applying lime or ashes to putrid urine or dung.* (But why *putrid* or partially decomposed? This we have asked since the meeting, and Dr. Jackson replies, because urine and dung *when fresh*, will give out, on the application of lime, only a small quantity of ammonia; but if somewhat putrid when the lime is applied, they give it out very freely.) The great object in the use of lime is, to make ammonia or ammoniacal products; and this should be done under such circumstances that the ammonia may be absorbed by vegetable matters; for then the acids in these matters will be neutralized and the matters themselves will become good manures. How shall we do this?

If you apply lime to dung or urine alone, the ammonia will pass off into the atmosphere and be lost. If you suffer dung to ferment alone, ammonia will be escaping from it and will be wasted. But mix your fresh dung and muck well together in a well formed heap; put a coating of muck on the outside of the heap; it is a good course to cover the whole with straw and boards. Let the heap lie in this state several weeks or months; Dr. J. recommends forming it in the autumn and letting it remain until spring. In this state the muck will absorb the ammonia given out by the dung in its first stages of decomposition. At the proper time, 10 or 15 days before you wish to apply the compost, take a bushel of unslaked lime to each cord in the heap, apply to it just water enough to reduce it to a powder, and then throw the heap over, mixing the lime in well. The heap may be again coated with muck, for this coating will absorb ammonia in sufficient quantity to make it good manure. Ashes will answer as a substitute for lime. (We did not learn the relative quantity of dung and muck, but we suppose that if the muck has been for some considerable time exposed to the atmosphere, or if from any other cause it does not contain a large quantity of free acids, that from two to three cords of muck may very safely be used to one cord of dung.) Muck when saturated with the urine of cattle, if thrown over and treated with lime, becomes as valuable as dung.

Farmers often make mistakes in the application of lime as a top dressing. If it is put on in its caustic state it does but little if any good *the first year*, because it is then imbibing carbonic acid from the atmosphere, and as this acid feeds the foliage of plants, the lime robs them of their food until it becomes saturated. Air-slaked lime as a top dressing answers well as a corrective on acid soils. Lime is most serviceable on soils containing a large quantity of partially decomposed organic matter.

Mr Newton, President of the Berkshire Agricultural Society, had found caustic lime as a top dressing, fail the first year, though it produced good effects the following season. His experience in every respect confirmed Dr. Jackson's opinions. Soil and marsh mud may be used instead of muck, but are not equally valuable.

[We trust that farmers will preserve this paper, and that when the proper season arrives, some of them will follow *strictly* the rules here given for directing them in the use of lime.]

BOSTON CULTIVATOR'S REPORT OF DR. JACKSON'S REMARKS.

As Editor, we have nothing to say to our neighbor relating to his report; but as secretary of the farmers' meeting, and as the organ of their invitation to Dr. Jackson, we do complain of it; and for this reason: if those who are invited to address us are liable to be rendered ridiculous by great misrepresentation and disrespectful insinuations, we shall be unable to obtain speakers.

We certainly did not hear Dr. J. say that "he would endeavor to entertain the meeting by stating from recollection what he had *formerly delivered at other meetings.*" But we did hear him say, in substance, this: that he should draw from the stores which memory had laid up *during the years he had devoted to agricultural chemistry.* Neither did we hear him say "that no plants would grow so as to mature their seeds, in any *mixture of pure earths*, without imbibing something from the atmosphere"—but we did hear him maintain (in opposition to Liebig's hypothesis,) that most plants cannot obtain from *the atmosphere alone* carbon enough to enable them to produce flowers and seeds. This was his point. When the Cultivator says that "the Doctor's remedy" for acidity in rotten wood "is lime," we must ask him if he remembers correctly the prescription. We thought Dr. J. named *ammonia* as the proper medicine; and for producing this he wished not for lime alone, but lime acting upon animal matter. The "wonder if he (Dr. J.) could make good manure from white pine, white pine leaves, or pine sawdust, if he had lime enough," we do not join in, both because we have found the muck from a pine swamp very good as an ingredient of compost manure; and also because we believe that boiling it in potash would very soon convert fine sawdust into very good manure, and believe further that *all* decayed vegetable matters may be made good manures, whenever by the use of lime and animal matter you cause them to imbibe ammonia enough to neutralize their acids. When the speaker "treated learnedly of *senic* acid," we did not hear him; but his remarks upon *crenic* acid we attended to. His remark that "*rain water* in this vicinity was charged with *crinite* of lime," escaped our notice; but we heard him say that *pond water* in this vicinity contains *crenate*, &c.

Where Dr. J. was understood "to think the subsoil was not worth much before it had *been manured*," we understood him to say that it would be improved by stirring it with the subsoil plough, and thus submitting it to *increased action from the atmosphere.* Another quotation—"As to gypsum, he supposed that some part of it might go into the plant and compose a part of it, as in case of clover, &c.; yet he confessed that gypsum produced no effect on some soils—(if plaster operates principally by forming a component part of the plant, then why should it not prove useful on all kinds of soil?")—The statement of fact here may be correct, but as the question asked intimates an inconsistency in Dr. J.'s opinions, we will try to answer it. Gypsum is supposed to have much the same action as common salt; consequently we cannot expect to derive benefit from it where there is already salt enough to supply the plant with what it will incorporate into itself, as is the case along the sea coast. On calcareous soils, inland, it is serviceable.—Once more we quote—"The Doctor still seems to think lime the all important agent in agriculture, though he distinctly admits that the excrement of animals is useful." Dr. J. speaks of lime as a mere chemical agent to render compost soluble, and fit it for food to plants; and we distinctly ask if it was not a great object with him to teach farmers how they might make a compost that would be nearly or quite as *good as dung?* This *was* an object with him; and therefore the assertion that "he distinctly admits that the excrement of animals is useful," (implying that he sets but little value upon excrement as a manure,) is false in its import and an insult to his good common sense.

We intend to maintain our friendly relations with our

brother editor, but we must protect, as far as possible, from misrepresentation and slurs, the scientific friend of the farmers, whose services we were directed to solicit, and whose teachings were most highly valuable.

Mr Geo. B. Emerson is expected to speak at the agricultural meeting tomorrow evening, upon Forest Trees.

We have the pleasure of inserting on our fifth page Col. Jaques' remarks upon the horse.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending Feb. 28.

Feb 1841.		7A.M.	12, M.	5,P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	22	24	32	30	E.
Tuesday,	23	39	47	20	W.
Wednesday,	24	0	24	18	W.
Thursday,	25	6	29	26	S.
Friday,	26	31	42	38	W.
Saturday,	27	34	35	34	S. E.
Sunday,	28	30	42	35	S. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET. — Monday, March 1, 1841.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 410 Beef Cattle, 25 yoke of Working Oxen, 15 Cows and Calves, 500 Sheep, and 100 swine. 80 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle*—We reduce our quotations to correspond with sales. We quote a few extra at $6 50 a 6 75. First quality $6 00 a $6 25. Second quality $5 50 a 5 75. Third quality, $4 75 a $5 25.

Working Oxen—A few sales only effected.

Cows and Calves—Sales few and dull.

Sheep.—Lots were sold at $2 50, 2 75, 3 50, 4 50, 4 75 and $5 00.

Swine.—4 1-2c. for sows and 5 1-2 for barrows. At retail 5 and 6.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, very little in market. Red Top, by the bag 60 to 70 c. Clover—Northern, very little in Market.—Southern, plenty, 9 to 10 c. Flax Seed, $1 37 to 1 50 bu. Lucerne, 25 c. per lb.

FLOUR. Howard Street $5 37—Genesee $5 31—Ohio $5 12.

GRAIN. Corn—Northern Yellow 60 to 61 c—Round Yellow 57 to 58—Southern Flat Yellow 55—White 53. Rye—Northern 60 to 65—Southern 50 to 55. Oats—Southern 28 to 32—Northern 35 to 40.

PROVISIONS. Beef—Mess $10 50 to 11 00—Prime $6 50—No. 1 $9 00. Pork—Extra—15 00—Clear 14 50—Mess $13 00. Hams—Northern 9 c. per lb—Southern, none. Lard—Boston 9 c per lb.—Southern, 8 to 8 1-2. Butter—Lump 18 to 22—Firkin 12 to 18—Shipping 8 to 14. Whole Hogs 5 1-2 to 6 c.—Pigs 5 c.

HAY, per ton, $17 to 17 50—Eastern Screwed $13 to 14.

CHEESE—Old 11 c.—New 8.

EGGS, 16.

POULTRY—Chickens 10 to 12 1-2 c. per lb.—Turkeys 10 to 11—Geese 7.

WOOL—The market for this article has not experienced any change of late. Pulled Wool is rather scarce, and there is but a limited supply of low Fleeces and of fine Fleeces the stock is also moderate. Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 50 to 55 c.—American full blood, washed, 47 to 50—Do 3 4 blood, washed, 44 to 46—Do. 1-2 blood, washed, 36 to 40—1-4 and common do, 35 to 37—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 to 28—Do. unwashed, 10 to 14—Bengasi Sheep, 8 to 10—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 to 10—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 43 to 46—No. 1 do. do. 37 to 42—No 2 do do 26 to 30—No 3 do do 18 to 20.

FRUIT TREES AND SCIONS FOR SALE.

The subscriber, at the Pomological Garden, Salem, offers for sale a very choice and extensive variety of Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Peach and Apricot Trees, Grape Vines, Gooseberries, Red and White Dutch Currants, and Red and White Antwerp Raspberries.

Also, Scions of all the European and American Fruits which have been proved; all from fruit bearing Trees, packed in boxes with moss, and can be transported with safety to any part of this country or Europe.

ROBERT MANNING.

Salem, March 2, 1841. tMay1

SITUATIONS WANTED

As Gardeners and Farmers. Apply at N. E Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store. March 3.

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard or rocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *done more work, with the least power of team, of any plough exhibited*—no Plough doing over twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough done twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantial made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Feb. 24.

PURE SPERM OIL.

EDMUND T. HASTINGS. & CO.

No. 101 State St. keep constantly for sale, Winter, Spring and Fall Sperm Oil, bleached and unbleached; which they warrant to be of the best quality and to burn without crusting.

Oil Canisters of various sizes.

Boston, Jan. 1, 1841. 1sly

FARM FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers for sale that valuable Farm, situated about 3-4ths of a mile below the First Parish Meeting House, on the Stage road, and commonly known as the Judge Prescott farm, containing about 170 acres of superior land, in a good state of cultivation, with two dwelling houses, four barns, and other out buildings. The farm is remarkably well watered with soft water, conveniently fenced, has nearly forty acres of large, handsome wood and timber standing on it, with an orchard of grafted Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, and Cherry trees, and might be easily divided into two Farms. The estate will be sold reasonably. If five thousand dollars be paid on receipt of the deed, the remainder may lay on mortgage to suit the convenience of the purchaser. For further particulars, apply to the subscriber, living on the premises. WM. SALISBURY.

Groton, Oct. 26, 1840. eow.

A SMALL FARM FOR SALE,

Situated in Braintree, ten miles from Boston, with a Dwelling House and large Cider mill thereon. The farm contains about 20 acres, Inquire of

NATHANIEL FAXON,

Feb. 24. No. 53 North Market Street.

BERKSHIRE BOAR AND SOW.

The subscribers offer for sale a full blood Berkshire Boar and Sow, 18 months old, which they purchased a year since from N. C. Bement, which he warranted to be pure.

Feb. 24. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

PEAR, PLUM, GRAPE VINES, &C.

3000 Pear Trees, of the most approved kinds.

2000 Plum Trees, of the most approved kinds and extra size—many of them have borne this season.

Apple, Cherry and Peach Trees, of different kinds.

500 Quince Trees.

4000 Isabella and Catawba Grape Vines, from 6 to 15 feet high; most of them have borne fruit. Black Hamburg, Sweetwater, Pond's.

30,000 Grant Asparagus Roots.

Gooseberry, Currants, Raspberries, of good kinds.

5000 Wilmot's Early Rhubarb or Pie Plants, lately introduced.

2000 Cherry and Pear Stalks; 1000 Plums; Roses, &c. of all kinds.

All orders sent to the subscriber at Cambridgeport, will meet with immediate attention.

SAMUEL POND.

Cambridgeport, Mass., Feb. 24.

GARDEN SEEDS,

For sale by Joseph Breck & Co. at the New England Farmer Office, *No.* 51 and 52 *North Market St. Boston.* The subscribers would inform the public that they have now on hand the largest collection of seeds ever before offered by sale in this city, embracing every variety of *Field, Kitchen, Garden,* and *Ornamental* Flower Seeds desirable for this or any other Climate.

Our seeds are either raised under our own inspection or imported from responsible houses in Europe, and having taken extraordinary pains to obtain such as are pure and genuine, we can confidently recommend them to our customers and friends, and feel assured they will prove satisfactory to all who try them.

Dealers in seeds are requested to forward their orders in season. Boxes for retailing from 8 dolls. and upwards will be sent out on commission allowing a liberal discount and take back what remain unsold.

Letters and orders with good reference will meet with prompt attention.

FIELD SEEDS.

Sugar Beet.	Ruta Baga.
Mangel Wurtzel.	Ballatine's New Royal do.
New Red Globe do. } superior	White Tankard Turnip.
Yellow do. } varieties.	Red do.
Carrot Long Orange.	Red Round do.
" Altringham.	White do.
" New White, extra fine.	White Globe do.
Pumpkin, sorts.	Green Round do.
Wheat—various sorts,	Purple Top Hybrid do.
Barley, do.	Buckwheat.
Rye, do.	Broom Corn.
Potatoes, do.	Millet.
Indian Corn, do.	Buckthorn. } for Hedges.
Oats, do.	Locust. } for Hedges.

GARDEN SEEDS.

Artichoke, Asparagus, Beans of every description, Beets of sorts, Borecole, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cauliflower, Caraway, Celery, of the most improved sorts, Cabbage 20 sorts, Carrot, all the varieties, Cucumber do, Cress, Egg Plant, Endive, Indian Corn, Kale, Leek, Lettuce in great variety, Melons, do. Martynea, Mustard, Nasturtium, Okra, Onion of sorts, Pepper do. Pumpkin do. Parsnip, Parsley, Peas, a very great variety, Rhubarb for tarts, Radish of sorts, Salsify, Squash of sorts, Tomato, Turnip 20 varieties.

SWEET AND POT HERBS.

Thyme	Sweet Basil.
Sweet Marjorum.	Lavender.
Sage.	Lemon Balm.
Summersavory.	Anise.

Medicinal Herbs, &c.

ORNAMENTAL FLOWER SEEDS.

Three hundred varieties, embracing all the finest sorts. Packages of 20 fine sorts for one dollar.

Those who prefer to have their Seeds put up in papers ready for retail, can be accommodated—each packet neatly closed and labelled with printed directions. Price 50 cents, per dozen papers, which are retailed here at 6 1-4 cents each.

Fruit and ornamental trees, of the greatest variety, supplied at nurseryman's prices, and orders solicited. These will be packed, when required, to go to any part of the U. States. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Jan 27, 1841.

AN OX WAGON AND OX CART

Nearly new, for sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Inquire at No. 52 North Market Street, or at their Farm in Brighton. Feb 24.

WANTED,

An experienced Gardener, to whom liberal pay and constant employment will be given. Inquire of this office.

Feb. 24. tf.

GRINDSTONES.

An extensive assortment of Water and Hand Grindstones constantly on hand and for sale by AMMI C. LOMBARD & CO. 13 Lewis's Wharf. 1sly. Nov. 17.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Ladies—dear creatures—can do any thing they please with us. The Baltimore Clipper presents the following evidence, of the irresistible influence of "woman's winning way:"—

"A very beautiful young lady on the Point, not long since, signed her name to a temperance pledge, one article of which prohibited her receiving the *affectionate* attention of any young gentleman who was in any way given to intemperance. It happened that the tender hearted damsel had, at the very time she put her name to the paper, a beau with whom she was well pleased, but who, unfortunately, (according to report,) took occasionally a "*leetle* too much." The maiden was therefore under the painful necessity of addressing her, "fondly loved one" a polite note, stating her situation, the nature of the pledge she had taken, and the utter impossibility of her ever after receiving his attention as a lover. "I love you as purely as ever," was the language of the note, "but my word has gone forth, and honor bids me to respond to your kindness only in the light of a friend." The young man found himself completely subdued.—The words "I love you as purely as ever," were too potent. Determined not to forfeit such devoted affection, he sought the earliest opportunity to become a temperance advocate himself, signed the pledge, and is now a member of the Washington Temperance Society. Young love's dream with them has already brightened into engagement, and is, we understand, shortly to be consummated in matrimony. Powerful and beautiful is thy influence, oh woman."

Weight of Military Men.—The following memorandum was found a number of years ago in the pocket book of an officer of the Massachusetts line:

AUGUST 19, 1783.

Weighed at the Scale at West Point.

General Washington,	209	lbs.
General Lincoln,	224	"
General Knox,	280	"
General Huntington,	132	"
General Greston,	166	"
Colonel Swift,	219	"
Colonel Michael Jackson,	252	"
Colonel Henry Jackson,	238	"
Lt. Col. Huntington,	232	"
Lt. Col. Cobb,	186	"
Lt. Col. Humphreys,	221	"

It appears from the above, that the average weight of these eleven distinguished revolutionary officers, was 214 pounds. The heaviest weight having been General Knox, who weighed 280 pounds, and the lightest, General Huntington, who weighed 132 pounds. It is somewhat singular that the biographers of eminent men, never unless under circumstances of a peculiar character, record the weight or dimensions of the clay tenements which were the abode of their immortal spirits.

Young farmers, when you are looking out for a wife, ask the same question:

A girl was presented to James I. as an English prodigy, because she was deeply learned. The person who introduced her, boasted of her proficiency in ancient languages. "I can assure your majesty," said he, "that she can both speak and write Latin, Greek and Hebrew." "These are rare attainments for a damsel," said James; "but pray tell me can she spin?"

Excellent Sentiment.—Governor Morehead, of North Carolina, in his inaugural address, introduces the following excellent sentiment, which cannot be too forcibly impressed on the minds of the citizens of this country:

"Nothing so surely indicates the happiness and prosperity of a people, as numerous school-houses well filled during the week, and churches well crowded on the sabbath—and the latter is sure to follow the former. If we desire to perpetuate our glorious political institutions, we must give to all our people moral and intellectual cultivation. That man who improves his intellect for six days in the week, and on the seventh endeavors to give it the proper direction, from the precepts of our holy religion—who learns to do unto others as he would they should do unto him—*that man will never become a tyrant, and he can never be made a slave.*"

The Cod-fish.—A correspondent of the Exeter (N. H.) News Letter, speaking of the State House at Boston, says—"I did not particularly notice the ornaments of the Representatives' Hall, excepting a statue, which seems to attract even more attention than that of the Father of his country—I mean the likeness of a cod-fish, which has a conspicuous place, high and lifted up in front of the Chair. The Speaker looks up to the cod-fish, and calls the House to order. The gentlemen engaging in debate, as they wax warm and animated, throw up their hands and eyes to the cod-fish, and gather new force and zeal and eloquence. Even the chaplain of the House looks up to the cod-fish, as he leads in the devotions of the morning. I do not by any means believe that the descendants of the pilgrims have become idolaters and actually worship the cod-fish, but it is certainly looked up to with great veneration, if not regarded as the presiding genius of the place."

Titles.—Several years ago there was a young English nobleman figuring away at Washington. He had not much brains, but a vast number of titles, which, notwithstanding our present dislike to them, have sometimes the effect of tickling the ear amazingly. Several young ladies were in debate, going over the list;—he is Lord Viscount so and so; Baron of such a country, &c. "My fair friends," exclaimed the gallant Lieut. N., "one of his titles you appear to have forgotten." "Ah," exclaimed she eagerly, "what is that?" "He is *Barren of Intellect*," was the reply.

Definition of a Gentleman.—Gentility is neither in birth, manner, nor fashion, but in the mind. A high sense of honor, a determination never to take a mean advantage of another, an adherence to truth, delicacy and politeness towards those with with whom you may have dealings, are the essential and distinguishing characteristics of a gentleman.

Solitude Sweetened.—To shut a boy up in a cellar, and let him have free access to the molasses cask.

"How dreadful short the days are," as the woman said when she let her breakfast dishes stand till she had read a novel.

A man is said to be "over head and ears in debt," when he hasn't paid for his hat.

POUDRETTE.

This valuable manure may be had on application to the subscriber, at the office of the "*New York Poudrette Company*," No. 120 Nassau street, New York. It is *in-odorous*, and may be transported in barrels, on board of any vessel or steamboat, without offence—and it will be found an exceedingly valuable article as a *fertilizer* on *any* soil, and for *any* crops; but more especially for gardens and flowers, as there are no foul seeds in it. Poudrette has been used for three seasons with entire success on Long Island, by many practical farmers, as may be ascertained from letters and statements made by them, and published at this office in a pamphlet containing also the "*act of incorporation*," granted to the Company by the Legislature of the State of New York; and other facts in relation to the subject. *Price* 35 cents *per bushel*. Barrels cost 25 cents each, and hold 4 bushels. Persons wishing to make an experiment on a small scale can obtain *one barrel* by enclosing a *two* dollar current bank bill—or *three* barrels by enclosing *five* dollars, free of postage. *On receipt of the money* the article will be put up and forwarded as directed

*** Price of shares, one hundred dollars—which entitles the holder to *one hundred bushels* of poudrette annually, during the term of the charter; fifty bushels in time for *spring* use, and fifty bushels in time for *fall* use. Shares taken soon, will be entitled to the spring dividend—and, if desired for experiment, a few bushels may be had this fall.

All orders, or applications in relation to the business, must be made to the subscriber, 120 Nassau street, New York.

D. K. MINOR.

☞ I wish it distinctly understood that the "*New York Poudrette Company*" is in no way connected with the "Lodi Manufacturing Company," of which *Anthony Dey* and *Peter Barthelemy* are, or were, the managers.

Dec. 9, 1840. 3m. D. K. M.

POUDRETTE.

The subscribers reside in the state of New Jersey, many of us in the vicinity of the works erected by Anthony Dey, of the city of New York, on the Hackensack river, in New Jersey, for the manufactory of Urate and Poudrette, called "*The Lodi Manufacturing Company.*" We have used the poudrette on the Spring Crops this year, 1840. We find it *a valuable manure, superior to any other kind that we have ever used, and considering the facility of its transportation to the field, the small quantity required in the application to the crops, the quickness of its operation on vegetable matter, and the ease with which it can be applied,*—all tend to recommend its use to the farmer and gardener as *the cheapest and best manure*, and we recommend it accordingly.

Those of us who have applied it to corn and potatoes think that it ripens those vegetables quicker than any other manure by several weeks.

Dated New Jersey, October, 1840.

Jacob D. Van Winkle.	*P. F. Welsh.*
John J. Newkirk.	*G. C. Van Riper.*
John Tise.	*George Tise.*
Daniel Van Riper.	*William Wood.*
George Demott.	*John Duryee.*
Henry Drayton.	*George Newkirk.*
Josiah Hornblower.	*Garret Newkirk.*
Corns. Van Winkle.	*Daniel Vreeland.*

Shares in the above company are $100 each, and may be had by applying to Anthony Dey No. 73 Cedar St. New York.—The owner will receive 20 per cent. per annum, payable in money, or 50 bushels of Poudrette. The price to those who buy Poudrette is 40 cents a bushel. It costs the Stockholders 12 cents a bushel. *One cents worth*, that is, 20 Gills, will manure 20 hills of corn, and the like quantity 15 hills of Potatoes.

Newspapers friendly to agriculture will confer a favor on the Farmers and Gardeners by publishing the above.

Dec. 22.

NEW FLOWER SEEDS.

The subscribers have received from London a choice collection of Flower Seeds, which, with those raised by themselves, constitute all worthy of cultivation. Price from 6 1-4 to 25 cents per paper. Assortment of those marked 6 1-4 cents, 20 papers for one dollar, and others in the same proportion.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

Feb. 10.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

The Editorial department of this paper having come into the hands of the subscriber, he is now authorized by the publishers to inform the public that the price of the paper is reduced. In future the terms will be $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days.

ALLEN PUTNAM.

N. B.—Postmasters are required by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

Mr Geo. Tappan is our agent at New Bedford, Mass.